

III. REMARKS

1. Claim 27 is amended to correct the character spacing error. Claims 66-70 are new.

2. The Examiner has objected to claims 15, 26, 41 and 46. It is respectfully submitted that the concept of passing messages between applications, as recited in claims 15, 26, 41 and 46, would be understood by one of skill in the art. Information on the notion of message passing between applications and generally inter-process communication (IPC) can be found, for example, in the book Operating Systems: Design and Implementation, 2nd edition, Andrew S. Tanenbaum, Albert S. Woodhull, Prentice-Hall. Thus, no change to the wording of claims 5, 26, 41 and 46 should be required.

3. Claims 15-26, 37-40, 43-55, 57, 58 and 63 are not unpatentable over Schilling in view of Thompson et al. ("Thompson") under 35 U.S.C. §103(a).

Schilling and Thompson fail to disclose the feature "the application program is adapted to send messages to another application via the interface" as recited in claims 15, 26 and 46.

Schilling discloses a wireless communication system based on debit cards. In the system, mobile terminals are equipped with slots into which debit cards are inserted. The slots comprise card reading and writing apparatus. In the communication system, a mobile terminal sends an end station in the network information on the remaining balance on the debit card. The end station corresponds to a network exchange. Thereupon, the end station associates the debit card with the mobile terminal number. The

balance on the debit card is allocated for the use of the mobile terminal. In response to a call, the end station sends a second signal on the basis of which the balance on the debit card is updated. Schilling fails to disclose that there are application programs adapted to send messages to another application via the interface between the debit card and the mobile terminal as claimed by Applicant.

Thompson discloses a communication system with multipurpose personal communication devices. The personal communication devices may be fixed terminals or mobile terminals. The devices comprise a main body, which further comprises a display, a keyboard, connectors and a loudspeaker. The devices also comprise a lid, which may house a number of application modules. The application modules are connected to the device mail bus. An application module may comprise a processor, memory, power source and a transceiver. An application module provides the software and the hardware required for a new functionality such as infrared communication.

Thompson discloses a solution where application modules connected to the electronic device main body and a common bus therein comprise a processor and software, which allows application programs to be executed at the application module. The common bus provides sufficient capacity to transmit information between processor, resident memory and application module (Thompson, column 9, lines 30-48). The common bus preferably allows the transmission of at least 19 bits of information to address the various components associated with electrical circuit 62 (i.e. electronic device and application modules as evident from Figure 7) and an additional 16 bits of information associated with the data base contained in each memory unit associated with

electrical circuit. Thompson fails to disclose a solution where an application program executed on a storage device is adapted to send messages to another application via the interface. Thompson teaches the addressing of components associated with electrical circuit and databases contained in each memory unit. In others words, Thompson teaches only the addressing at the component level, for example, the addressing of processors and other circuits, not on the application level within any given processor unit. What the "databases" are in this particular context remains open from the teachings in Thompson. Elsewhere in Thomson databases refer to a variety of information servers accessed in the network via the radio interface. Thompson fails to disclose or suggest the feature "the application program is adapted to send messages to another application via the interface" as claimed by Applicant.

Since neither Schilling nor Thompson disclose or suggest at least the feature of the application program being adapted to send messages to another application via the interface as claimed by Applicant, the combination of these references cannot as well. Therefore, Applicants respectfully submit that claims 15, 26, 41 and 46 are patentable over Schilling in view of Thompson.

Claims 16-25, 27-40, 42-45 and 47-65 depend on claims 15, 26, 41 and 46 respectively, either directly or via intervening claims, and are therefore also patentable over Schilling in view of Thompson in view of at least the dependencies.

4. Claims 20, 45, 51 and 57 are not unpatentable over Schilling in view of Thompson further in view of Michaels at least by reason of their respective dependencies on claims 15 and 46.

5. Claims 27-30, 34-36, 59, 60, 62 and 65 are not unpatentable over Schilling in view of Thompson further in view of Gutman et al. at least by reason of their respective dependencies on claims 15, 26, 41 and 46.

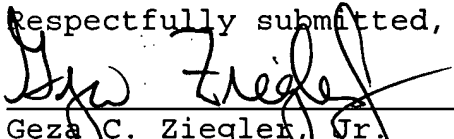
6. Claims 31-33 are not unpatentable over Schilling in view of Thompson further in view of Gutman and further in view of Fujii et al. at least by reason of their dependency of claim 26.

7. Applicants will provide a suitable terminal disclaimer to overcome the double patenting rejection upon the indication of the allowability of claims 15-65.

For all of the foregoing reasons, it is respectfully submitted that all of the claims now present in the application are clearly novel and patentable over the prior art of record, and are in proper form for allowance. Accordingly, favorable reconsideration and allowance is respectfully requested. Should any unresolved issues remain, the Examiner is invited to call Applicants' attorney at the telephone number indicated below.

A check in the amount of \$1380 is enclosed for a three-month extension of time and additional claim fees. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge payment for any fees associated with this communication or credit any over payment to Deposit Account No. 16-1350.

Respectfully submitted,


Geza C. Ziegler, Jr.
Reg. No. 44,004
Perman & Green, LLP
425 Post Road
Fairfield, CT 06824
(203) 259-1800 Ext. 134
Customer No.: 2512

29 MARCH 2004
Date



CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service on the date indicated below as first class mail in an envelope addressed to the Commissioner of Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

Date: 3/29/04

Signature: *Supanne Jley*
Person Making Deposit

RECEIVED

APR 05 2004

Technology Center 2600